

IN RECOGNITION OF “RESPIRATORY CARE WEEK 2003”

WHEREAS, The City of Augusta has long been concerned with the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, lung diseases, known collectively as chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, are the fourth leading cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases cost the United States economy an estimated \$31.9 billion a year; and

WHEREAS, asthma, along with chronic obstructive diseases, affects millions nationally (15 million – asthma and 16 million – COPD); and

WHEREAS, respiratory therapists are dedicated to teaching Augusta residents about their lung health and providing information and testing to prevent or slow the spread of lung disease in this country: and

WHEREAS, the people of Augusta deserve the opportunity to grow, thrive and be healthy, informed and aware of their respiratory health; and the factors that affect that health; and

WHEREAS, during October, respiratory therapists, pulmonologists, health care advocates, and other professionals from around the world will be raising awareness of respiratory health issues through special screenings and other activities during Respiratory Care Week, October 19 - 25, 2003.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim October 19 - 25, 2003 to be “RESPIRATORY CARE WEEK” in Augusta, Georgia, and extend thanks and best wishes to all respiratory health care professionals for providing life-saving care every day and for participating in Respiratory Care Week to the benefit of the respiratory health of the citizens of Augusta.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia to be affixed this 19th day of October 2003.